

Local Merchants To Hold Week-End Thrift Festival

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SUPERVISORS OPEN BIDS ON TORRANCE HEALTH CENTER

Seventy-nine Contractors Offer Estimates In Six Classes of Work for Construction of Proposed Building on Carson Street

Low bids for construction of the new Redondo-Torrance health center totaled \$35,287. It was revealed today following a checking over of the 79 bids opened by the board of supervisors this week. Award of the contract for the building is scheduled to be made at next Monday's session of the board of supervisors and work is expected to begin about July 1. C. Bongiovanni was the low bidder on the general contract, at \$20,352. Seventeen general contracting bids were received, other bidders being H. F. Miller, \$20,798; J. E. Burrell, \$21,150; Herbert M. Baruch Corporation, \$22,286; J. B. Justice, \$23,535; Pozo Construction Company, \$23,197; F. L. Crowley, \$23,130; Louis A. Geisler, \$26,850; Wigg Construction Company, \$22,172; C. Haverland, \$24,215; J. A. Binn, \$22,337; Harry Friedman, \$22,300; Christine Fischer, \$25,336; Jones Brothers, \$23,200; Willard Lutz, \$23,000; Johnson Construction Company, \$23,812; and J. E. Shearer and Son, \$22,740.

CONTRACTS ARE AWARDED

Acting in special session in order that the project might get under way at the earliest possible moment, the board of supervisors on Wednesday awarded two of the contracts for the new Torrance-Redondo health center, upon motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn. C. Bongiovanni, Hollywood contractor and low bidder on the general work, was awarded the contract at his bid of \$20,352. The plumbing, heating and ventilating contract was awarded to Lehman Brothers, low amongst 14 bidders at \$6085. These two awards will permit the project to get under way, it was pointed out, and the remaining contracts can be awarded next Monday.

Storm Drain to Aid Harbor City Will Be Costly

Report of City Engineer Fixes Expense of Improvement at \$200,000

It would cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000 to install a storm drain system to relieve flood water conditions in the Harbor City district, the board of supervisors was informed this week by the Los Angeles city engineer. This would be an underground system, sufficient to care for the flood waters which are annually causing more damage to property in the vicinity, it was explained.

Attention of the metropolitan city to the flood water situation was brought last fall in a communication from Secretary C. F. King of the Harbor City Chamber of Commerce. The area is between 25th street, which is the western prolongation of Wilmington-Redondo boulevard, and Anaheim street, and Normandie and Governor avenues.

Secretary King said the problem was becoming increasingly difficult and that the bulk of the water originated in county territory west of Harbor City, resulting in damage to streets and private property.

"The area collects storm waters from some 500 acres of upland in the San Pedro hills in county territory," the city engineer's report states. "A considerable part crosses the city boundary line a short distance west of Western avenue, causing an overflow and deposit of silt on improved properties. Another street, which the San Pedro hills crosses the city boundary at 262nd street, adding to the difficulties.

"An underground storm drain system for this area would cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000 including right-of-way."

Last February 1 the Los Angeles board of public works sent to the board of supervisors a list of flood control projects needed within the city of Los Angeles. The cost totaled \$3,560,000, including a total of \$250,000 for the Harbor City system. This was No. 18 on the list, all projects being listed according to their importance in the opinion of the engineer. The supervisors decided this was too much money to ask voters to pass upon at that time, especially when it all was to be spent within the city of Los Angeles and the proposition was ruled off the May 3 primary ballot.

"The contemplated improvement by the county of 25th street, also known as State street, and of Western avenue, both of which traverse the affected district, could conceivably be amplified to furnish at least some relief to the Harbor City problem by wider roadway facilities for storm waters," the engineer's report goes on to state.

Cabrillo Ave. Paving Is Up Before Council

Mayor Klusman Takes Job at Hyde; Promptly Answered

Cabrillo avenue property owners voiced their sentiments against the deplorable condition of the street's pavement before the city council Tuesday night in no uncertain terms.

Ed Clarkson opened the discussion by pointing out the bad condition of the road south of Carson street, and asked that the city grade it and put it in condition for safe travel. Clarkson referred to the procedure in Redondo Beach, where the property owners pay 25 cents per foot front for materials and the city's unemployed do the work.

Councilman Conner stated that Cabrillo avenue was "an eyesore and hazard" and predicted that if something were not done that the city may be sued for damages in the event of an accident. The condition of the roadway is ruinous to tires, and just last week there were three minor accidents on the street, Conner stated. E. L. Guth and J. M. Roberts also remonstrated concerning the condition of the street.

Western Avenue Mayor Klusman accused Carl Hyde, Judge Dennis and City Engineer Leonard of blocking the improvement of Western avenue, because they wanted to convert traffic to Cabrillo avenue.

"There is not the least semblance of truth in what Mayor Klusman says," answered Mr. Hyde, adding, "there has never been a word spoken against Western avenue by myself nor has there been any action ever taken by the Chamber of Commerce."

City Engineer Leonard also denied that he was attempting to block the improvement of Western avenue. Councilman Steiner added that the City of Torrance has long ago given ground for the widening of its side of Western avenue, but that he would fight any attempt to saddle the expense on Torrance property owners for acquiring land on the side of the road which lies in the city of Los Angeles.

Cabrillo Again Referring again to Cabrillo avenue, Leonard stated that he was endeavoring to secure funds from the gasoline fund for the improvement of Cabrillo avenue to Plaza del Armo. The obstacle in the way of paving between the tracks north of Carson street was the payment by the city of \$12,500 to the Pacific Electric for moving the rails, said Leonard.

LARGE CROWD TURNS OUT TO HEAR SHULER

Audience Walks Out on Klusman When Congressional Candidates End Talks

Over 700 people gave an attentive audience to Rev. Bob Shuler, candidate for United States senator on an independent ticket, and Charles J. Colden, candidate for congress from the 17th district on the Democratic ticket. When they spoke Monday evening at the Torrance high school under the auspices of the Taxpayers' League, Beverly B. Smith, chairman of the Torrance branch of the league, presided.

Mr. Colden stated the speech he carried under his arm weighed more than nine pounds, and covered 644 pages. It was the list of delinquent county taxes and contained, he said, 874,907 items with a total amount of \$13,374,451. "There isn't a line of humor in these pages," Mr. Colden said, "every item is a tragedy; it means someone out of work, someone losing his home."

Mr. Colden flayed the cost of government, city, county, state and federal which increased from 4 per cent, he said, in 1912 to 22.2 per cent of assessed valuation today. He pointed out increases in county salaries, saying 47 officials

Mayor's Plan to Meet Opposition in Council

Mayor W. T. Klusman urges citizens in the various districts named by him shortly after he took office as entitled to a director on the Chamber of Commerce board, to take immediate action to elect their representatives on this body. The new fiscal year of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce will begin July 1 when the mayor hopes to have completed the new popularly elected board of representatives.

Districts as planned by the mayor are Walteria, the McDonald tract, each of which has selected its representative; Hollywood Riviera, South Torrance, C. C. M. O. district, Industrial district, business district, the section of Torrance south of Carson street not included in others before mentioned, the section between Carson and Torrance boulevard west of Engracia, and the section north of Torrance boulevard.

The present board of directors will retire at the expiration of the fiscal year. This group offered to tender their resignations to take effect at once shortly after the April election, but were prevailed upon by the mayor to remain in office until the close of the fiscal year, by which time he expected to have new directors chosen in accordance with his sectional plan.

Mr. Klusman says, "It is of great importance to keep the machinery of the chamber in an uninterrupted motion. The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce can be of valuable service to all the people in Torrance and of im-

portant assistance to the city council, therefore all the citizens in all the aforesaid districts should not lose any time to elect their representatives as soon as possible. On behalf of the council members, I wish to thank the outgoing board of directors of the chamber for the splendid assistance rendered since the election of the new city council in Torrance in April."

According to report, it is expected that the plan of the mayor will meet with opposition on the part of other members of the city council who are not in favor of applying this method of selecting the Chamber of Commerce board. A substitute plan under which each resident property owner in the city of Torrance will have one vote, and by which the new board will be elected from the city at large instead of from arbitrary districts, will be proposed.

A primary and a final election will be held under the new plan, those receiving the largest number of votes in the primary to become the candidates for election at the final.

The new board elected under the substitute plan would become an advisory board to the city council which would retain the control of the financial affairs of the chamber. Three cents of the 10-cent tax voted for advertising, music and parks, would be set aside as a fund to cover the fixed overhead expenses of the chamber. The

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Almost Unbelievable Bargains Offered By Merchants This Week In Great June Thrift Festival

Friday and Saturday of this week have been set aside by Torrance merchants for the celebration of their June Thrift Festival, which is destined to be known as the greatest feast of values which has been offered the buying public since the good old days before the World War.

A careful perusal of the advertisements in this issue will convince the most skeptical that "Now Is the Time to Buy." Torrance merchants have been preparing for this event for many weeks, vying in friendly rivalry to see which store could offer the most for the money. Even "Dollar Days" with their enticing bargains will have to take second place to this June Thrift Festival. Practically every merchant in Torrance is cooperating in the event, and the extreme values offered for the two days, Friday and Saturday, will long be remembered by the fortunate ones who shop in Torrance this week-end. Among those participating in the Thrift Festival are department stores, drug stores, shoe stores and men's stores. Many food stores are also offering special week-end values. Look over the advertisements carefully, check the bargains, the extremely low prices, and then come down and examine the fine quality of the merchandise.

Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25, are the two big days to buy,—but you'll be boasting of the bargains you got for many days to come.

NEW CITY BEING BUILT ON VACANT TRACT IN KEYSTONE

Homeless Families Take Up Residence In Rent-Free Dwellings Erected by Their Own Labor on Ground Donated as Part of "Over the Hump" Aid

Out on the vacant acreage east of Torrance a new city is rising. Homeless families have founded a Newhaven where they can find shelter, food, and for the present work to do which will keep their minds off their forlorn condition and re-establish their morale as self-respecting citizens capable of self-help if given the right opportunity.

Four acres at the corner of Figueroa and Amelia street in Keystone is the location. Five more acres adjoining are to be acquired if the project develops beyond the proportions now visualized by the promoters of this humane plan. Seven families are already established there and more are coming. The old spirit of pioneer days, when men battled with the land to wrest a living from it for themselves and their families, is plainly evident, for everywhere

there is action, earnestness, deep interest and a willingness to cooperate and help each other that is bringing quick results. Six tents were up and the seventh was rising. A young man, busy with saw and hammer, was just finishing the framework Tuesday morning, a framework made out of old lumber salvaged from some wrecking job elsewhere. He spread out a big piece of canvas on the ground. It was torn in spots, but most of it was whole and usable. He sized up his framework and tore off enough of the canvas to cover the roof. With the help of a young woman, he tossed it over the roof, and another dwelling for the comfort and protection of a family, was well on towards being completed.

G. Allison Phelps, radio humanitarian and publisher, sponsor of

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County Medical Group Formally Recalls Protest

Letter Filed With Board Withdraws Objections to Health Center

Formal withdrawal of the objections of the Los Angeles County Medical Association to erection of the Torrance Health Center building was filed with the board of supervisors this week by the medical body's secretary, Harry H. Wilson. The letter was read at this week's meeting of the board and ordered marked "received and filed," by Supervisor John R. Quinn, supervisor of the fourth district.

The letter, which is a complete abatement of the part of the medical body, follows: "In reference to our communication of May 17 in which we requested the board of supervisors to delay action on construction of the Health Center at Torrance, I wish to withdraw our objections, due to the fact that our committee has had a meeting with Supervisor John R. Quinn, Dr. Pomeroy and various citizens of the district involved.

"We wish to express our appreciation of the constructive cooperation being established between your board, members of the public health department and the medical profession as it pertains to public health matters."

Supervisor John R. Quinn, following the opening of bids by the board this week, pointed out that the total of the low bidders for each type of work was more than 37 1/2 per cent below the estimated total cost. Low bids totaled \$35,287, while \$48,000 was set aside for the building in the 1931-32 budget.

The county board of supervisors also took steps to provide health center facilities for the community to the north of Torrance when they entered into a contract with the city of Hawthorne for a health service for the next 27 months. Upon motion of Supervisor Quinn, the county will pay the city \$600 a year for the service, or \$50 a month.

CHARITY BOND ISSUE CALLED OFF BY BOARD

Supervisors Rescind Action Pending Decision On Extra Session

Los Angeles county will not vote on a charity bond issue until after the August primary election, it appeared today after the county board of supervisors had met late Tuesday and voted unanimously to rescind its action of the day before, setting in motion the machinery to call the special election, July 26, to vote on a special \$12,000,000 bond issue.

The reason advanced was that Governor James Rolph's decision to call a special session of the state legislature to consider water problems would undoubtedly mean that the unemployment problem would be dealt with, and probably would result in a plan for a state-wide bond issue. Thus the state's plan and the county plan probably would conflict, it was stated.

Chairman Henry W. Wright of the board said: "I have doubted seriously that such a bond issue would carry at this time, but I am willing to do anything rather than see women and children suffer for want of food. I will go as far as any of the other supervisors in reducing our next year's budget to enable us to carry the additional load."

Supervisor John R. Quinn said he did not think the bond issue the panacea for the problem, but he believed it could have been put over by a campaign of education. "I don't believe relief by the state will cost us any less, but more," he said. Supervisor Harry N. Baine of Hollywood said he felt that the board had acted purely as a mechanism to let the people vote on the issue, but in the face of new developments he did not hesitate to vote to rescind the action.

STEVENSON UNFIT, KLUSMAN; OUTGROWTH OF VERBAL CLASH

Hot Argument Between City Head and Assistant Fire Chief Follows Attempt to Oust Employee and Family From Rent-Free Quarters

Stinging with indignation as the result of a reported hot argument held last week in front of the police station between Mayor Klusman and Assistant Fire Chief Ollie Stevenson, the mayor charged Tuesday night in the council meeting that Stevenson was "not fit to be on the job."

"He used language I wouldn't tell before a lady, and I don't care to repeat the language he used. It was most abusive, and unbecoming a city employee," said the mayor. The reported verbal attack of Stevenson upon Klusman, is said to have been prompted by the mayor's attempt

at the last council meeting to remove the Stevenson family from occupying living quarters above the jail.

Klusman was requested by his fellow councilmen to put his charges against Stevenson in writing, with the promise from Police Commissioner Earl Conner that if they are serious enough, that Stevenson will be brought before the council for a hearing.

Councilman Ludlow suggested that Stevenson should be charged rent for his living quarters above the jail and that Mrs. Stevenson be paid for her services when she acted as police matron in county prison. The arrangement made with a previous council called for free rent in exchange for services as a police matron.

Wants More Room Klusman insisted that Stevenson be ordered to vacate the quarters, "as the city engineer and city clerk need the room for storage. Answering the mayor, Ludlow stated that he had asked both the engineer and the clerk and they had both informed him that no additional room was needed for their offices.

"It all simmers down to the fact that you need room and not the clerk and engineer," said Ludlow to Klusman, and suggested that the mayor use the council chamber as his private office, as it was not in use during the day. Klusman stated that Stevenson's pay should be cut \$50 a month for cussing the mayor.

"How about giving you \$50 less for cussing Stevenson?" asked Councilman Wright. "I didn't cuss him!" answered Klusman.

"Why they heard you two blocks away," replied Wright.

Mayor Klusman next proposed that the council install a loud speaking system in the chamber so that the people outside could hear the proceedings, as the crowd was getting too large to get into the council chamber.

"Why not install a broadcasting station and then everybody can stay home and listen in?" commented Ludlow, humorously. When Mayor Klusman brought up the question of further reducing the salaries of firemen and policemen, he met with the refusals of other members of the council and "decided to let the matter drop."

Give A Man A Job

Look around your home or place of business and see if there isn't some work you could have done to help some fellow out of work and up against it. Any work will be welcomed, no matter how small, and any kind of tradesman or laborer can be furnished by the new Unemployment Relief Bureau, which has opened offices in the store building at the corner of Sartori and El Prado.

G. J. Reese is secretary of the bureau and has agreed to serve without pay for the first week. Pending the installation of a telephone in the bureau office, requests for workmen may be telephoned to L. C. Conner, phone 536. Payment for services rendered should be made direct to workmen who agree to work at prevailing wage scales.

The Unemployment Relief Bureau is being conducted by men out of work and a sincere effort will be made to be fair in allotting work, according to Mr. Conner, who is active in the organization.

Ripples Leave For Old Plantation On Banks of Potomac

Friends of Lewis Ripple, who for some time past have heard him humming softly, with a faraway look in his eye, that oldtime ditty "Down on the Farm" have been wondering just what the ex-furniture dealer had on his mind. Last Monday, when the Ripple family, Mr. and Mrs. Ripple and daughter, Betty, drove away from Torrance, the secret was out.

They were headed back to Maryland, back to the old plantation on the banks of the Potomac, where they will dwell on the property that has been in the family for over a hundred years, a 1600-acre tract in the heart of the best apple country in the United States near Hancock, Maryland. The plantation originally belonged to Ripple's grandfather. It is located about 100 miles from Washington, D. C., the same from Baltimore, 150 miles from Chesapeake Bay, and on the line of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

Furniture for the old home, including some priceless old family heirlooms, was shipped by truck and will be delivered at the door. Torrance friends of the Ripple family wished them goodbye and good luck on Monday, and are now visualizing Lewis as lord of the old southern manor, overseeing the business of the farm, or taking his ease on the broad veranda of his home comfortably smoking a "first-leaf" perfecto made of tobacco grown on the place, and pondering on which of the Democratic candidates will get his vote this fall.

Boy Arrives In Summers Family

"It's a boy," said Herb Summers, assistant city engineer, when he came down to work this morning, thereby announcing the arrival of a new member of his family. Summers, junior, was born Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 at a Hollywood hospital, weighed in at 7 pounds and Herb says, "looks like his old man." Mrs. Summers and baby are doing nicely.

Steiner Gets \$960 For Unemployed In Big Sale of Wood

Commissioner of Public Works Steiner brought good news to the city's unemployed this week, when he announced the sale of wood in the city yard to a Seattle firm for \$960. The money will be used to furnish work for the unemployed.

May Increase City Tax Rate 17 Cents

"Faced with the possibility of increasing the municipal tax rate 17 cents over last year because of decreased assessment figures and the necessity of cleaning up a \$60,000 overdraft on the city treasury, the city council will meet Friday evening of this week to go over the budget for the coming fiscal year.

MRS. HOOVER INJURED Mrs. Lola Hoover, proprietor of the Hoover Dress Shop, was painfully burned this week when she upset a pot of boiling coffee which poured over her foot.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Dolley, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Probert, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Pat Prudue of Redondo Beach, attended Grand Hotel at Hollywood Monday evening.

Burdick Named As President of New Association

Constables of Los Angeles Townships Perfect Mutual Benefit Association

Lester C. Burdick, constable at El Monte, was elected president of the new "Constables' Association," organized Thursday night, June 16, at Belvedere Gardens. Practically every township in Los Angeles county was represented at the meeting. Other officers chosen were Herman Bosshart of San Antonio township, vice president; Harry F. Tucker, Belvedere township, secretary and treasurer. An advisory board consisting of W. T. Osterholt, superintendent of constables; John V. Henry, inspector; A. B. Chambers, constable of San Jose township; R. B. Way, constable of Whittier township, and Mrs. Dona Waite of Montebello township, was named.

Osterholt acted as temporary chairman. In addition to the constables and deputies, the meeting was attended by Judge Edward P. Woods of Montebello township, and Judge John L. Webster of Malibu. A committee to draft by-laws will report at the next meeting which will be held at Belvedere township court room on Thursday, July 21. The association will meet regularly on the third Thursday of each month. It is expected that the group will be invited to meet in Torrance at an early date.

L. Bache, First Superintendent at C.C.M.O., Dies

News of the death of L. Bache, first superintendent of the C. C. M. O. camp, has been received in Torrance. According to advices from the Elks lodge of Albany, N. Y., Mr. Bache passed away at that city on Friday, June 17. Funeral services were held there on Monday. Mr. Bache had been a member of the B. P. O. E. of Redondo Beach. He had been employed here as head of the C. C. M. O. camp in 1923. Afterward he left the employ of the company and went to South America where he had been until recently.